



Year 1 Autumn Newsletter

Welcome to Beech Class! The children have settled in well and are adjusting to life in Year 1. We have planned the learning to support their love of play, while beginning the Year 1 curriculum.

Our class teacher is Mrs. Hazelden and our full-time teaching assistant is Miss Gercke. Miss Boundy will also be assisting in the classroom.



Topics

Our very first topic is called 'Into the Woods', where we will be learning to write stories inspired by traditional tales and 'The Gruffalo' by Julia Donaldson. We will focus on seasonal changes and weather, in Science, and learn to follow and make maps in Geography. In computing, we will be learning how to use computers safely.

After half-term, our topic is 'Heroes'. We will start by focusing on superheroes and then move on to real life heroes, including Florence Nightingale and Grace Darling.



You can find our learning journey on the class page, on the school website, where there will be lots of information about our learning journey, along with some photographs.

English

Our English work this half term is focused on correct sentence formation and our 'Every Time We Write' skills. Alongside our writing we will be continuing to work on our phonics in order to prepare for the Year 1 phonic test in the summer term, more details will follow. We are learning to spell the Year 1 common exception words (words that are not easily decodable using phonics) over the year. Please support your child with learning to read and write these at home:

Year 1 Common Exception Words

a	is	said	be	no	put
ask	his	says	he	go	push
	has	the	me	so	pull
are		they	she		full
our		there	we	of	one
	was	here		love	once
do	were	I	by	come	school
to	where	you	my	some	friend
today	want	your			house

Maths

We are continuing to follow the Numicon approach which the children started when working in Reception. The children will be recognising the Numicon Shapes, sorting and ordering them. We will also be learning to recognise and sequence numbers to 20, then 100, developing our number fluency and solving simple addition and subtraction calculations.



PE

PE kits (including trainers or plimsolls) should be worn to school on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays**. School jumpers/cardigans should also be worn. If your child has earrings, **they must be removed** on these days. As the weather gets cooler, please send them in wearing tracksuit trousers for when we go outdoors.

Homework

Homework will be set weekly on Seesaw. This will include simple English, Maths and topic tasks, which will support the learning the children have done at school. Please encourage your child to have a go. The children are not always expected to write at this stage, so you could add drawings or a video of them discussing their work verbally.

There is also a Year 1 Home Learning Menu, where children can choose extra tasks linked to our topics, to complete each half-term.

Educational Visits (dates to be confirmed)

Autumn Term - Autumn walk around the local area (October 2025), no charge.

Spring Term - Visit to Amberley Museum (April 2026), £24 last year.

Summer Term - Farm visit: new trip (June 2026), cost TBC.

Helping Your Child at Home

- Regular reading at home (not just their school book), sharing stories and asking and answering questions about what they have read.
- Regular counting forwards and backwards, identifying coins and telling the time.
- Supporting homework tasks while letting them develop their independence.
- Regular short sessions testing their common exception word spellings.
- Lots of drawing, colouring in and writing.

If you have any queries or questions, please come and see me or email the school office at office@bartonsprimary.school.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Hazelden, Miss Gercke and Miss Boundy